



CITY OF LARAMIE

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MINUTES

Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee

March 28, 2013, 2:00 PM
405 Grand Ave., Laramie, WY
Annex Conference Room

The regular meeting of the Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 2:04 p.m. in the Historic Carnegie Building, 405 Grand Avenue.

I. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rich Elliott, Cal Van Zee, Paul Rechard, David Evertson, Joe Lord,
Vicki Henry and Jason Sherwood
Staff Present: Darren Parkin and Sherryl Schilling

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION BY Rechard, seconded by Lord, to approve the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 21, 2013

MOTION BY RECHARD, seconded by Van Zee, to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2013 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Standing Report from Parks, Trails, Recreation Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

Lord reported that the committee has been meeting for about 2 years. They have been holding public meetings, stake holders meetings and Derek and Paul are writing the text for the Master Plan. It has been decided that recreation opportunities will be retired until the water is transferred from the Ranch for municipal use. The trails and open space will have to wait. Approved hunting and fishing activities will continue.

B. Monthly Report from Water Resource Specialist – Darren Parkin

Overall condition of the ranch is good, no real issues. Neighbors are happy with the ranch operations. Some of the high ground is eaten off because of the drought. He has seen solid management decisions out there. There should be water on the Haul Road ditch to the five Level-Ground pasture areas next week.

There is still money in the budget for fencing (5 miles a year). Van Zee said they need to replace fence in Simpson Springs area. They have already fenced off the quarry.

The end of the month snow survey is being conducted now. Automated sites show 81%, which is an increase. Wheatland's Irrigation District 83 call is going to come into play which will load the river at the lower end making it easier for us to irrigate and get our water out. He expects that we will get a good supply if it remains at 81%, but it can drop 30% if we don't get any storms this month. One storm could put us at 100% because they hold so much moisture this time of year. Last year ended at 21%.

C. Pivot Update – Darren Parkin

The center pivot has been delivered to the ranch. The dirt work begins Monday; they will be taking down fences, moving cattle to the Go Forth, and installing the new cistern. Pump and dirt work should be done by Friday of next week. Electrical will be the last item to be done. Committee members can call Darren at 721-5213 to visit the new pivot construction site.

Darren indicated the City has hired John Simpson, the Ditch Rider for Pioneer Canal and Lake Hattie for 9 years, to handle irrigation as a provisional employee. John has a good working relationship with Stanley Baer at the ranch.

D. Simpson Springs House – Structural Integrity

Elliott referred to Dave Clark, City Attorney's letter dated February 28, 2013 on the city's liability. His opinion is that the city needs to maintain the house in a habitable condition and that the maintenance expenses come out of the \$18,000 budget. Discussion ensued regarding demolishing the house versus updating the house.

MOTION BY RECHARD, seconded by Sherwood, to approve having a discussion with the Lessee regarding options on the Simpson Springs house. **MOTION FAILED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOTION TO AMEND BY LORD, seconded by Evertson, to recommend forwarding the structural information to the Lessee for review and that the report indicates that the Simpson house is uninhabitable. **MOTION TO AMEND FAILED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOTION BY EVERTSON, seconded by Lord to forward the inspection report completed for the Simpson Springs home by Jeff Meacham of the City Code Administration Department to Stanley Baer, Ranch Lessee. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. Simpson Springs Wells – the Simpson Springs Weston Report was sent to the committee, the next available funding will be in 2015

F. The following documents will be sent to the committee members:

- Faessler Executed Contract
- Simpson Springs Weston Report
- Simpson Ranch House Inspection Report dated November 8, 2012.

G. RAC Resolution to fill vacancies (to Council on April 2)

Sherwood and Evertson are listed on the resolution to remain on the committee. Henry will sponsor this item on the Council Agenda.

VI. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

MOTION BY RECHARD, seconded by Evertson, to set the next meeting date for Thursday, May 2, 2013 at 1:00pm. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VII. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

- A. Standing Report from Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee
- B. Monthly report from Water Resource Specialist
- C. Pivot Update
- D. Simpson Springs House – Structural Integrity
- E. Simpson Springs Well Report
- F. Report on Lease Terms and Receivables

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY RECHARD, seconded by Sherwood, to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

s/ Sherryl Schilling _____

Sherryl Schilling
Acting Secretary to the Ranch Advisory Committee

Date